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April 1969

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MEMORANDUM FOR:

SUBJECT: Sary Shagan Power Distribution

REFERENCES: NSA/SOC/R-135-69
(NPIC Project 250401)

1. This memorandum is in answer to questions specified in the referenced requirement regarding electrical power grid facilities serving the Sary Shagan Missile Test Center, USSR. The data are based on the continuing analysis of the center and observations obtained from the latest available photography of good interpretability.

2. The Balkhash grid, which supplies power to the test center, was not tied into the national grid to the north or to any grid serving Soviet Central Asia to the south on photography. However, a powerline paralleling the highway leading north from Balkhash had been installed to a point at approximately 47-41N 74-47E. This highway connects Balkhash to Karaganda and passes through Akchatau. A short section of this powerline is in the process of being installed southeast of Akchatau. There was no evidence of powerline construction north of Akchatau in

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3. All electronics installations at the test center, as far as can be determined, are supplied with electric power distributed either through the principal substation located west of the main housing area, or through the substation serving the ASAT/Space Tracking Facility (formerly Site 13). Both these substations receive power from Balkhash.

4. Only one power distribution system using various voltages serves the test center. Recently additional local circuits have been added and the principal substation expanded. Construction of an additional local (possibly 110 kv) powerline from the principal substation has been started.

Declass Review by NIMA / DoD

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

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5. A low-voltage (10.6 or 6.0 kv) overhead powerline can be traced between the principal substation and the security wall surrounding the installation with the tall TV/microwave tower at the main housing area on the shore of Lake Balkhash. All but two wooden supports for this powerline have been identified.

6. No auxiliary power generation sources have been identified at any Sary Shagan electronics facility. This does not preclude the possibility that small-sized emergency diesel generators may exist.

7. Any further inquiries should be directed to [redacted] 25X1A NPIC/IEG/SD, IDS Code 143, extension [redacted] 25X1A

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[redacted]

Chief, Imagery Exploitation Group
NPIC

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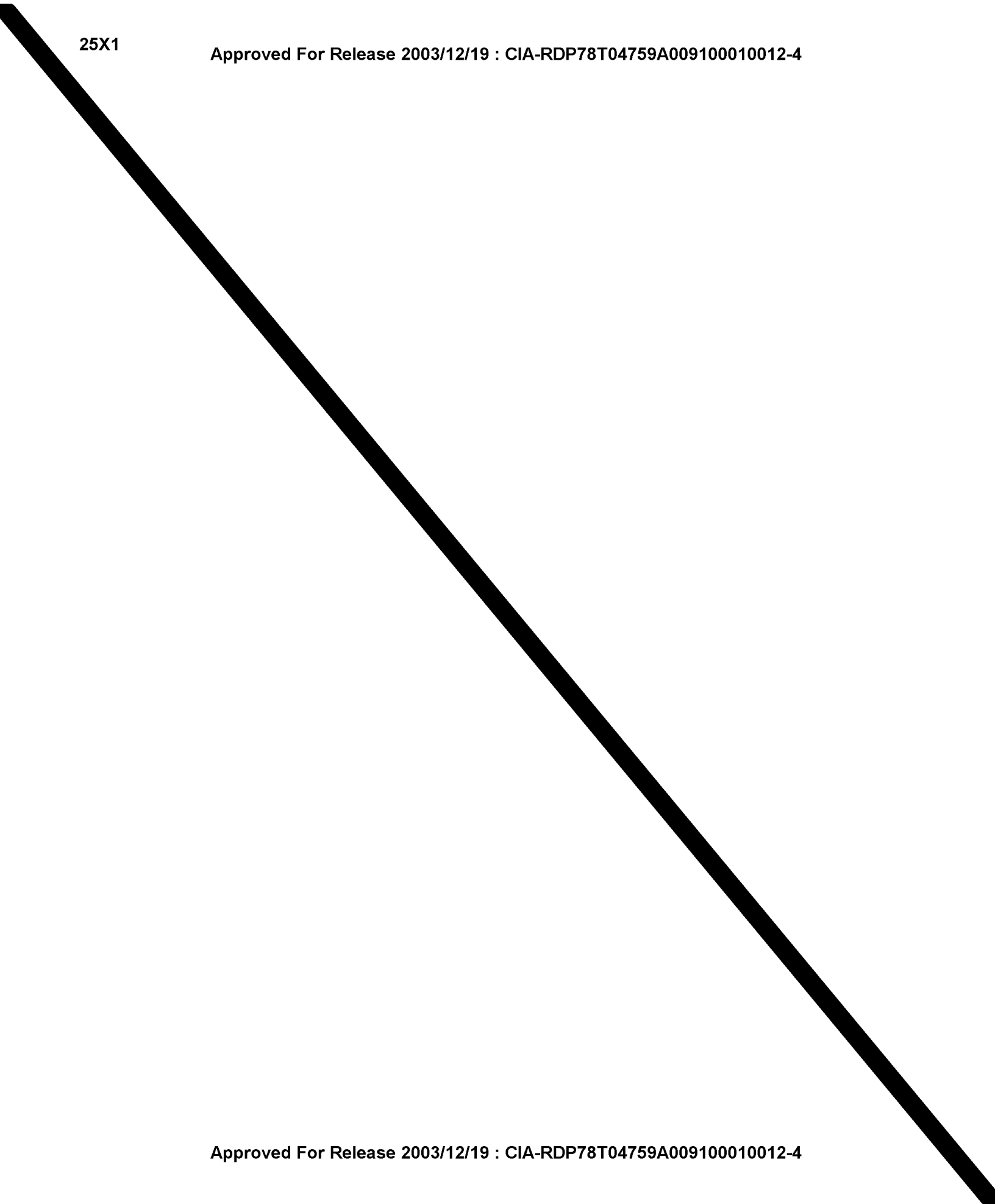

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